

## Message Text

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72

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /104 W

----- 112669

R 040921Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2711

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCUNC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, KN, UN

SUBJECT: JOINT SECURITY AREA INCIDENT

REF: (A) CINC/COMUSK 030708Z MARCH

(B) CINCUNC/COMUSK 031017Z MARCH

1. MARCH 4 KOREAN AFTERNOON PRESS (CHUNGANG ILBO AND DONGA ILBO) AND KOREAN RADIO BROADCASTS HAVE GIVEN SUBSTANTIAL COVERAGE TO DISTURBANCE WHICH BROKE OUT BETWEEN NORTH KOREAN AND UNC GUARDS IN JOINT SECURITY AREA AT PANMUNJOM MARCH 3 (REFTELS).

2. PLAYING UP STORY PRESS ALLEGED SKIRMISH STARTED WHEN 200 CLUB AND SHOVEL WIELDING NORTH KOREAN GUARDS ATTACKED 50 UNC GUARDS AFTER UN GUARD TRIED TO STOP A NORTH KOREAN FROM TAKING PICTURES OF GENERAL WILLIAM MCLEOD, EIGHTH ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF AND UNCMAC SENIOR MEMBER (SIC). THIRTY MINUTE MELEE REPORTEDLY ENSUED, RESULTING IN INJURY OF "A NUMBER OF UNC GUARDS." RADIO REPORTS HAVE CLAIMED FIVE UNC GUARDS INJURED AND THREE UNC CARS STONED AND DAMAGED. PAPERS NOTED THAT UN HAS ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE MEETING BETWEEN LIAISON OFFICER BUT THAT AT PRESS TIME THERE HAD BEEN NO NORTH KOREAN RESPONSE.

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3. KOREAN PRESS SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATING INCIDENT FOR OBVIOUS REASONS. FACTS OF STORY ARE AS FOLLOWS: LTGEN. ROBERT MURPHY, UNC CHIEF OF STAFF, AND GROUP OF TOUR GUESTS WERE AT UNC OBSERVATION POST (OP) 5 NEAR CHECKPOINT 3 IN JOINT SECURITY AREA (JSA), WHEN UNC SIDE SECURITY OFFICER STOOD BETWEEN PICTURE TAKING KPA GUARDS AND GENERAL MURPHY'S GROUP. FOLLOWING WITHDRAWAL OF GENERAL MURPHY AND HIS GUESTS, KPA CAPTAIN GRABBED UNC SECURITY OFFICER AND OTHER KPA GUARDS, THEN KICKED HIM IN BACK AND GROIN. AFTER SHORT SCUFFLE UNC GUARDS MANAGED TO GET UNC SECURITY OFFICER INTO OP5 SOMEWHAT BRUISED BUT WITH NO FURTHER INCIDENT.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, WHEN U.S. JOINT DUTY OFFICER (JDO) INVESTIGATED SCENE OF INCIDENT IN JSA, A SECOND KPA CAPTAIN WITH GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 50 NORTH KOREAN GUARDS STONED AND SUBSTANTIALLY WRECKED JDO'S VEHICLE, BRUISING JDO'S ELBOW WITH ONE STONE, CUTTING UNC INTERPRETER'S HAND, AND ALSO DAMAGING UNC TRUCK TRANSPORTING GUARDS. THERE WERE MINOR INJURIES TO THREE PEOPLE AND OTHER DAMAGE WAS TO WINDOWS AND SOME OF OFFICE SPACE OF UNC BUILDINGS IN JSA AS WELL AS TO UNC VEHICLES MENTIONED ABOVE.  
HABIB

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, BORDER INCIDENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Date:** 01 AUG 2002  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOINT SECURITY AREA INCIDENT  
**TAGS:** PBOR, KN, UN, (MACLEOE, WILLIAM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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